



State of California
Respiratory Care Board
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Inquiry: Does the State of California require a Respiratory Therapist to perform the initial "set-up" of a CPAP machine in a homecare environment?

Response: Please be advised that the Respiratory Care Practice Act (RCPA) provides that the practice of respiratory care is limited to licensed professionals authorized to practice respiratory care or whose license permits the practice of respiratory care. Initiating CPAP therapy for a patient is the practice of respiratory care. Therefore, initiating CPAP therapy may only be performed by licensed personnel.

Reference # 2001-C-02